

**From:** Jason W Stiles  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I am currently participating in worldwide network, orchestrated through beunited.org, that is working toward bringing BeOS or the equivalent back into the market place. There is however little hope for success of any alternative operating systems making headway on x86 (Intel) architecture if the following issues are not addressed:

- Open Office Suite file formats
- Win32 APIs
- Boot sector control through restrictive licensing
- Dual boot availability with predominant platforms

It is commonly accepted among Operating System enthusiasts that BeOS was one of the most advanced, most promising, and at the same time most doomed operating system because of the inability to work with vendors to get the product to market. This was truly the demise of BeOS. Any settlement that allows any company to restrict what OS'es may or may not be installed by 3rd party hardware vendors and computer manufacturers would be simply forcing the fate of Be Inc and BeOS onto the next company that attempts to innovate in the OS marketplace.

Further more, I think appropriate punishment of Microsoft should not come in the form of donations of hardware and software to schools, but rather it should include funding of Operating System research and development in the educational sector and no profit organizations. By taking advantage of and empowering the bright young minds our in country's high education institutions you would be fostering the same scenarios that led to the creation of Mosaic and the Netscape Browser and we all recognize how that changed the world.

Thank you,

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